

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1002

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Expressing legislative support for the preservation of the words, under God, in the pledge of allegiance.

WHEREAS, the first amendment to the United States Constitution, which guarantees religious freedom to all Americans, is the literal keystone of our nation's political edifice; and

WHEREAS, the just and proper convictions of the Founding Fathers were not limited to a perpetual prohibition against the establishment of any one religion, but were predicated upon a fervent desire to foster an abiding spirit of tolerance not only for all religions, but for all religious philosophies; and

WHEREAS, much of the contentious recent first amendment litigation has been premised on the mistaken theory that the first amendment was designed to establish an areligious or even an antireligious context for religious worship in America instead of an America deeply committed to the respectful toleration of all religious consciences:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Eightieth Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that the Legislature deplores all litigation motivated by any misguided determination to substitute restrictive minority viewpoints for traditional American religious tolerance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Legislature supports the retention of all traditional, nondenominational references to God or the concept of divinity as incorporated in the national pledge of allegiance, the national motto, many state mottos, and various oaths of office and similar legal formulations.

Adopted by the House of Representatives,  
Concurred in by the Senate,

January 20, 2005  
January 24, 2005

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Matthew Michels  
Speaker of the House

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Karen Gerdes  
Chief Clerk of the House

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Dennis Daugaard  
President of the Senate

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Patricia Adam  
Secretary of the Senate